

VZCZCXRO4304

PP RUEHAG RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHLH RUEHPW RUEHROV

DE RUEHAA #1154 2471336

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

P 031336Z SEP 08

FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1463

INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 4236

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 2048

RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1913

RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 2484

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0880

RHMFIS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE PRIORITY 2838

RUEAAIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 001154

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN; DRL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/03/2018

TAGS: PGOV PREL PHUM TX

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: DURDYMURADOV RESUMES TEACHING,
CONSIDERS SUIT AGAINST GOVERNMENT

REF: A. ASHGABAT 0807

¶B. ASHGABAT 0826

Classified By: Charge Sylvia Reed Curran for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Poloff spoke to Sazak Durdymuradov by phone to get an update on his situation. Durdymuradov, the RFE/RL correspondent detained in a psychiatric facility for two weeks last June (Ref A), said that he had resumed his teaching job at a school in Baharly when schools re-opened this week. He reported no problems when he returned home on July 4 after authorities released him from the hospital under international pressure (Ref B), and his position at the school was restored shortly thereafter.

¶2. (C) He did, however, indicate that he wanted to take the national security service to court for detaining him and imprisoning him in the psychiatric hospital without charge or due cause. He is uncertain how to advance such a case, in part because he did not receive a single document in the course of his detention that would constitute physical evidence that he was imprisoned on government authority.

¶3. (C) COMMENT: It appears that the government kept its promise to reinstate Durdymuradov's teaching position, which is an encouraging indication of progress. Post hopes that that there will be further progress regarding law enforcement's treatment of RFE/RL reporters in Turkmenistan.
END COMMENT.

CURRAN